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June 24, 2014

HSZC.org



Please help support Our Temple,
Dharma Study, Resident Student
Program & Our Practice Schedule
& Programs offered to the Public.

**Donations are tax
deductible**

Public Practice Schedule

Monday

7:00 am Zazen

7:40 am Morning Chanting Service

6:00 pm Zazen

6:40 pm Evening Chanting Service

Tuesday- Friday

6:00 am Zazen

6:40 am Kinhin (walking
meditation)

6:50 am Zazen

Sangha e-Newsletter 2014



The point of Zazen after Zen Master Hongzhi

The hub of buddhas' activity
the turning of ancestors' hub --
it moves along with your nonthinking
and is completed in the realm of nonemerging.
As it moves along with your nonthinking
its appearance is immediate.
As it is completed in the realm of nonemerging
completeness itself is realization.
If its appearance is immediate
you have no defilement.
When completeness is realization
you stray in neither the general nor the particular.
If you have immediacy without defilement
immediacy is "dropping away" with no obstacles.
Realization, neither general nor particular,
is effort without desire.

Clear water all the way to the bottom;
a fish swims like a fish.
Vast sky transparent throughout;
a bird flies like a bird.

7:20 am Chanting Service

7:40 am Soji (brief temple cleaning)

6:00 pm Zazen

6:40 pm Chanting Service

Thursdays Study Hour 7:30pm

Saturday

6:30 am Zazen

7:10 am Chanting Service

7:25 am Soji

8:30 am Drop-in instruction

9:25 am Zazen

10:15 am Dharma Talk

11:00 am Refreshments/Social



[Moon in a Dewdrop,](#)
[writings of Zen Master Dogen,](#)
[edited by Kazuaki Tanahashi](#)



Hartford Street ZC contingent in SF Pride Parade, marching with SFZC's contingent
 - June 2011



Upcoming Events:

HIV Meditation Sitting Group

weekly meditation group for those living with HIV, their friends, families, community supporters & anyone who wants to join us!
Thursdays & Fridays

10:30 am zazen

11:00 am garden socializing

Meditation in Recovery

(Men & Women)

weekly meditation group for men & women in recovery from addiction

Fridays, 7:30 pm - 9 pm

Dharma Talks- Rev. Myō Lahey - Jun 28, Jul 5,12, Aug 2,9... @10:15am

Guest Speaker Saturdays - July 19 **Renshin Bunce**; July 26 **Jamie Howell**; August 16 **Hobu Beata Chapman**; August 30 **Mark Lancaster**; September 13 **Jisan Tova Green**; October 11 **Laura Burges**; December 27 **Mark Lancaster**

Full Moon Ceremony - Saturday, July 12 @ 11am - the Full Thunder, Hay or Buck Moon.

LGBTQI PRIDE parade & festival! - June 29th and you are [invited to join](#) the parade contingent organized by SFZC's Queer Dharma. **Have a safe and enjoyable month and Pride weekend of events!**

Hartford Street Sangha practice week at Tassajara - July 8th through the 11th, 2014. The rooms through HSZC have been finalized. Anyone wishing to join us at this point will need to look into [standard guest accommodations](#)

Winter Study Period - (similar to a practice period) is planned to kick off around Sejiki (End of October) and run through Rohatsu and the Winter Light 5 day retreat (Early December).

Sangha Council - TBD

Founder's Memorial - Issan's Memorial is generally on the 6th of the month, & the memorial for Philip Whalen is generally on the 26th @ 6:40pm

Study Hour - Book of Serenity (wrapping up the 100 cases/full book very soon! Moving on to a different text) we have books to share, we read together, feel free to drop-in - Thursdays @7:30pm

Next Board of Directors' Meeting - Second Wednesdays of the month July 9 @ 7:30pm You're welcome to attend & observe.

WINTER STUDY PERIOD

This winter we will have a study period. This event is similar to a [practice period](#) and is planned to kick off after Sejiki (End of October, start of November) and run through Rohatsu and the Winter Light 5 day retreat (start

Women's Meditation inRecovery

(Women only)

monthly meditation group for
women in recovery from addiction.

First Thurs, 7:15 pm -8:45 pm



of December).

Because we are primarily a lay sangha (community) and organization and do not have funding for full time monastics and attendance to the full practice period schedule, and we all have lay world careers including our residential students, we will take the practice period model and make some adjustments.

We ask individuals commit to a routine they can uphold. We would like as we get closer to the start of this period, to know what you can join us for and encourage all to participate. Some of the parts of the study period require attendance planning and also to just to make a good group concentrated effort we need to know we have commitments to a regular routine. If you know now what you can commit to, you can let us know, otherwise, please inform us as early as you can before the period begins. A deadline will be later communicated. We look forward to concentrated practice opportunity and event with you!

Words From Our Abbot: Rev Myō Lahey

...In the perfection of Wisdom literature, and in the Platform Sutra Scripture of the Sixth Ancestor, it is suggested nothing actually arises. The truth of this is subtle but devastating.

Because of its subtlety, you may need to be still a long while before obscuring habits of body and mind yield to the pressure of reality. And because of its power, you will need to cultivate a great non-attachment, a heroic courage in the face of vast, fruitful, trackless emptiness, the churning yet bottomless sea of appearances.

But you have the heart of a hero already, do you see? It is your queer heart, which has kept you alive, which kept beating defiantly in the face of those who would try to tell you how to love. It is your warrior's heart I now invoke.

[Queer Dharma - Voices of Gay Buddhists V.1 - edited by Winston Leyland](#)



A brief Gay (LGBTQI) history (limited historical points) -

By Jerry Sloan

When Cain ambled over to the land of Nod to seek a wife, chances are, had he been so oriented, he probably could have, just as easily, found a himself a husband.

There is every indication that homosexual relationships have existed for at least as long as there have been historical records. These records establish that some outstanding people of ancient cultures were homosexual including: Sappho (610 - 580 B.C.E.); Plato (427 - 347 B.C.E.); Alexander the Great (356 - 323 B.C.E.); Julius Caesar (100 - 44 B.C.E.); to say nothing of the great army of lovers known as the Sacred Band of Thebes (371 B.C.E.).

Ancient Egypt provides two older examples of same-sex relationships. King Akhenaten (ruled 1379 - 1362 B.C.E.) who, although he followed Egyptian custom by marrying his mother and four other women, had an intimate relationship with a man named Smenkhkare. The couple was assassinated by polytheistic (fundamentalist) priests who were upset because Akhenaten introduced monotheism into the culture. There is a wonderful web page about the tomb of two Egyptian lovers, Niankhkhnum and Khnumhotep (2400 B.C.E.?) who apparently shared life and death together.

Of course there is the biblical story of David and Jonathan which tells us that Jonathan loved David so much they made a covenant together, and the



beautiful lament of David at Jonathan's death saying, "Thy love to me was wonderful passing the love of women."

Contrary to what is often proclaimed by modern fundamentalist (anti-gay) preachers, that homosexuality doesn't exist in the animal kingdom, it is well documented that numerous species such as the famous "lesbian pigeons" or the pansexual Bonobo, a rare breed of chimpanzees, said to most resemble humans, engage in homosexual conduct.

Recently on the floor of the California Assembly one of its members, Peter Frusetta (R-Tres Pinos), during debate on "gay rights" legislation, engaged in a rambling discourse about lesbian bovines which he had observed on his cattle ranch.

While homosexuals have been present at all times in history, never before have they been so prominent in public policy debate on a world wide scale, nor aroused such animosity of fundamentalist religions since the Inquisition.

How did all of this come about? According to Barry Adam, in his book *The Rise of a Gay and Lesbian Movement*, it is the result of urbanization. In Western countries the move from the farm to the city allowed homosexuals who had little contact with one another to meet. Both Adam, and the late Dr. John Boswell in his book *Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality*, note gay bars in seventeenth century London and Paris. For 300 years bars were to remain the primary meeting place for gays and lesbians.

As gays urbanized, they organized. Formal organizing started May 1897 with the Scientific-Humanitarian Committee, founded by Dr. Magnus Hirschfield in Germany. Most organizing in this country has occurred since the founding of the Mattachine Society in Los Angeles in 1951, and the Daughters of Bilitis in San Francisco in 1955.

These and other small organizations moved slowly in organizing and outreach, but considering it was the heyday of McCarthyism, they made tremendous progress.

Other factors which influenced the emerging movement:

- World War II gay and lesbian veterans settled in urban areas instead of returning to their rural home towns.
- Many gays and lesbians who participated in the civil rights movement in the South, and in the effort to stop the Vietnam War, realized if they

could make demands of civil rights for others, they could do it for themselves.

And then came the gay shot heard around the world: Stonewall! Starting early in the morning of June 28, 1969, the Stonewall Riots were minor street disturbances that came about when the New York Police raided gay bars like the Stonewall Inn, an unlicensed, Mafia-operated bar, which catered to drag queens and male hustlers and was located in Greenwich Village at 53 Christopher Street.

Several drag queens resisted as they were being shoved into a police van. At that magic moment, all the frustration, fear and anger of societal oppression boiled over and New York's Finest were held at bay for the rest of the night by a queer mob. For two more nights the crowds took to the streets after the bars closed, marching to the shouts of "Gay Power!" The spread of the movement was augmented in 1970 by the first annual commemoration of the Stonewall Riots. There are now nearly a thousand of these celebrations held worldwide, most in June, with some drawing millions of people.

After the Stonewall Riots, the gay and lesbian movement was radicalized. The more cautious Mattachine Society and Daughters of Bilitus were replaced by groups like the Gay Liberation Front and the Gay Activist Alliance. All across the country grassroots organizations sprung up with the demand for a place in society, pushing for changes in the way gays were viewed by society, and for protection from discrimination in jobs and housing.

Today, formal lobbying groups such as the Human Rights Campaign, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, and thousands of local and state groups advocate for gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered people. There are about 100 community centers offering support with youth groups, rap groups and a variety of other services.

As with most civil rights movements, the translesbigay communities have struggled, sometimes taking two steps forward and three steps backward, but it is a movement that will persevere and eventually overcome the prejudice,

bigotry, and hate of those who oppose freedom, tolerance, and love.



We are thrilled to announce that Hartford Street Zen Center has been selected as a beneficiary of [The Castro Street Fair 2014](#). Please mark your calendars for Sunday 5 October!

As a beneficiary we get paid a percentage of the total donations received by the fair for every hour that every person volunteers at the Fair. The online registration will go live in July. Meanwhile, there will be a sign-up sheet available at the temple -- we can have up to 50 volunteers -- plenty of opportunity to invite friends, family, neighbors. The funds raised will go toward repairing and INSULATING the zendo floor!!! Making the warmth of our practice even more tangible and lessening our resource use on our fragile Mother Earth. Please join in a fun day of FUN*draising for Hartford Street Zen Center!

Looking forward to a great [Castro Street Fair 2014](#) with you!

Starting June 28th day of PINK Saturday and Pride Weekend (and two weeks after) look for our non-profit promotional window display at the top corner of the Walgreens on Castro St & 18th St!

WDBLL?

What did Buddha look like? This is one thought and [website](#)'s claim to what they thought the actual man named Siddhartha Gotama - Shakyamuni (Sakyamuni), Buddha they feel likely looked like at age 41:

**Other Holidays, LGBTQI or Buddhist Events:**

[LGBT Film festival](#) June 19 - 29

[Ramadan](#) Begins (Islamic) June 29, Sunday

[LGBTQI \(gay\) Pride](#) (for SF) June 28 - 29, Saturday & Sunday

the Dalai Lama's Birthday July 6

USA Independence day July 4th

[Lazy Bear Weekend](#) July 30 to August 4

Additional LGBTQI Events

Seeking a **LGBTQI, Buddhist space for your wedding**? HSZC & Abbot Rev. Myō Lahey can be a part of this amazing & love filled ceremony. HSZC can house your Zen Buddhist Wedding ceremony & Rev Myō can perform weddings! Please email hszc108@yahoo.com, call us, or a better way yet is to stop in & discuss during our publicly open hours.



Abbot, Hartford Street Zen Center (HSZC) --- Reverend Myō Lahey



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*Please submit stories, reflections, personal news, artwork & photography for future newsletters to
KeiDo at tetsugen.keido@yahoo.com
May this newsletter find you well & equanimous! __/__*

